

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6304

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As of January 30, 2020

**Title:** An act relating to assisting homeless individuals in obtaining Washington state identicards.

**Brief Description:** Assisting homeless individuals in obtaining Washington state identicards.

**Sponsors:** Senators Liias, King, Darneille, Saldaña, Das, Dhingra, Hasegawa, Lovelett, Nguyen, Stanford, Wilson, C. and Zeiger.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Transportation: 1/29/20.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Expands eligibility for the at-cost identicard for individuals without a permanent address from age 18 to age 25.
- Requires the Department of Licensing, in collaboration with other agencies, to develop alternative documentation methods and processes to assist individuals in obtaining the at-cost identicard.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**Staff:** Bryon Moore (786-7726)

**Background:** The Washington State Department of Licensing (DOL) issues driver's licenses, endorsements, and identicards that are valid for up to six years. An identicard is a Washington identification card issued by DOL.

DOL must issue an identicard, containing a picture, to any applicant provided the applicant:

- does not hold a valid Washington driver's license;
- proves the applicant's identity; and
- pays the required statutory \$54 fee.

An identicard is distinctly designed so it is not confused with an official driver's license, and it expires on the sixth anniversary of the applicant's birth date after issuance. An applicant

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may renew an identicard by means personally appearing at a DOL office, by mail, or by electronic commerce.

An at-cost identicard—based on the production costs rather than the \$54 fee—can be provided if the applicant is:

- receiving public assistance;
- being discharged from certain state and local facilities; or
- under the age of 18 without a permanent residence address.

**Summary of Bill:** The bill as referred to committee not considered.

**Summary of Bill (Proposed Substitute):** The eligibility for the at-cost identicard for individuals without a permanent address is increased from age 18 to age 25.

DOL, in consultation with the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF), the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection Programs (OHY) must:

- develop other forms of identification that may meet the alternative documentation requirements for eligibility for an identicard; and
- create a process for certain entities to submit Washington state identicard application materials for individuals qualifying for the at-cost identicard.

DCYF must assist licensed or contracted providers in submitting identicard application materials for the at-cost identicard.

DOL must accept identicard application materials for eligible individuals, including identity documentation from a variety of entities. These entities include:

- individuals or entities licensed or contracting with DCYF;
- individual schools or school districts; and
- individuals or entities contracting with OHY.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 15, 2020.

**Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony on Proposed Substitute:** PRO: The legislation is one step of part of a larger effort to assist individuals get employment, housing and in stable situations that start with having access to an identicard. The pilot by the Mockingbird Society has proven the effectiveness of these efforts and this needs to get expanded. The increase to age 25 will allow other a slightly broader group of people remove one of the major barriers to becoming productive citizens. The alternative documentation provisions will standardize the process and give more consistency. Many homeless youth do not have access to identity documents and this will allow human service providers and school districts

assist individuals navigate the complexity of getting the necessary documents to prove identity.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Senator Marko Lias, Prime Sponsor; Liz Trautman, The Mockingbird Society; Rinn Cronin Kleinman, The Mockingbird Society; Isaiah Wilson, The Mockingbird Society; Rud Browne, Id to Work.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** No one.